

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 EB-07

AID-05 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE - SUMMARY OF 40TH MEETING,
DECEMBER 2, 1976

1. SUMMARY - FIFTH COMMITTEE ON MORNING, DECMEBER 2, SPENT ENTIRE MEETING ON SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS BUT NONE OF THE FOUR RESOLUTIONS WERE BROUGHT TO A VOTE. SEVERAL AMENDMENTS WERE PROPOSED, AS A RESULT OF WHICH FINAL DECISION WAS DELAYED AT LEAST UNTIL NEXT MEETING FRIDAY, AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 3. A CLOTURE MOTION BY ALGERIA WAS DEFEATED 40-48(US)-25. END SUMMARY

2. AGITATED MEETING OF FIFTH COMMITTEE ON SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS BY A MOTION TO CLOSE THE DEBATE INTRODUCED BY ALGERIA. THIS WAS THE FIRST TEST OF STRENGTH ON THE ASSESSMENTS ISSUE. THE MOTION WAS REJECTED 40 (OPEC COUNTRIES, SOME OTHER LDC'S -48(US, MOST WEO'S, EE'S, A FEW LDC'S)-25.

3. CANADA OPENED MEETING BY INTRODUCING ITS AMENDMENT (A/C.5/31/L.26--DATAFAXED TO IO/HENNES) TO NEPAL DRAFT
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RESOLUTION REQUESTING COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS (C/C) TO

STUDY WAYS OF INCREASING EQUITY OF THE SCALE AND TO REPORT IN DEPTH TO 32ND GA. NEPAL REPLIED THAT IT COULD NOT INCORPORATE AMENDMENT IN ITS DRAFT BUT WOULD LEAVE IT TO THE COMMITTEE TO DECIDE. NORWAY (AMB. ALGARD) SAID IT FAVORED ACCEPTANCE OF C/C SCALE BUT COULD CONSIDER TWO RATHER THAN THREE YEAR PERIOD FOR ITS APPLICABILITY AS WELL AS A LOWERING OF THE FLOOR TO .01 PERCENT. FRG SAID IT SUPPORTED NEPAL DRAFT BUT PROPOSED AMENDING IT TO PROVIDE FOR EXPANSION OF C/C BY FIVE MEMBERS, ONE FROM EACH REGION. NEPAL SAID THAT ON THIS AMENDMENT TOO IT WOULD LEAVE UP TO THE COMMITTEE. CUBA ARGUED THAT MORE TIME WAS NEEDED UNDER RULES OF PROCEDURE TO CONSIDER CANADIAN AMENDMENT TO NEPAL DRAFT.

4. UGANDA SUGGESTED THAT C/C SCALE BE ADOPTED PROVISIONALLY FOR ONE YEAR, AND WOULD ABSTAIN IF THERE WERE VOTE ON OPERATIVE PARA ONE OF OPEC DRAFT; HOWEVER, FAVORED ITS OTHER PROVISIONS. IRAN OBJECTED TO FRG PROPOSAL TO EXPAND C/C BY ONE MEMBER FROM EACH REGION, SINCE ISSUE IS NOT ONE OF NUMBERS BUT OF GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE -- C/C IS NOW OUT OF BALANCE. JAPAN SUPPORTED OPERATIVE PARA 4 OF CANADIAN AMENDMENT ON C/C STUDY BUT DIS-AGREED WITH PROPOSED OPERATIVE PARA 5 ON TIME OF C/C REPORT TO GA; THOUGHT OPEC DRAFT BETTER ON THIS POINT SINCE MORE SPECIFIC. BELIEVED FRG PROPOSAL FOR FIVE NEW C/C MEMBERS DID NOT RUN COUNTER IRANIAN CONCERN FOR BALANCE.

5. AT THIS POINT CANADA PROPOSED THAT THE OPEC DRAFT BE AMENDED BY DELETING OPERATIVE PARA 1 (WHICH WOULD MAINTAIN PRESENT SCALE FOR TWO YEARS) AND REPLACING IT WITH A PROVISION THAT THE C/C SCALE WOULD BE PUT INTO EFFECT FOR TWO YEARS. THERE WAS NO DIRECT REACTION IN SUBSEQUENT INTERVENTIONS TO THIS PROPOSAL, AND DELEGATIONS WENT ON SPEAKING ABOUT THE FOUR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS IN FRONT OF THEM, THE CANADIAN AMENDMENT TO THE NEPAL DRAFT, AND THE FRG ORAL AMENDMENT TO THE NEPAL DRAFT.

6. AFGHANISTAN AS CO-SPONSOR OF NEPAL DRAFT SAID IT COULD NOT ACCEPT FRG AMENDMENT SINCE IT HAD NO RELATION TO ORIGINAL AIM OF DRAFT. ARGENTINA REGRETTED THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS, SAID IT FAVORED EXPANSION OF THE C/C; WOULD VOTE AGAINST OPERATIVE PARA 1 OF OPEC DRAFT. FRG THEN SUGGESTED THAT OPEC DRAFT ALSO BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR EXPANSION OF C/C BY ONE MEMBER FROM EACH REGION, AND

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FURTHER PROPOSED THAT PARA 3 (A) OF OPEC DRAFT READ QTE THE GAP BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SHOULD BE DULY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE C/C ETC. UNQTE (I.E., IT WOULD ADD WORD QTE INDIVIDUAL UNQTE). AT THIS POINT MOTION FOR CLOTURE OCCURRED.

7. THE MOST NOTEWORTHY INTERVENTIONS AFTER THE VOTE REJECTING CLOTURE WERE BY GHANA AND KENYA. GHANA LAMENTED THE DAMAGE WHICH THE ISSUE HAD DONE TO THE G-77 AND ASSOCIATED ITSELF WITH

ARGENTINA'S OPPOSITION TO OPERATIVE PARA ONE OF OPEC DRAFT. KENYA, IN LONG DISCUSSION OF EACH DRAFT, SAID IT OPPOSED ANYTHING WHICH TAMPERED WITH THE C/C SCALE. THEREFORE IT COULD SUPPORT NEPAL DRAFT SINCE FLOOR WOULD BE LOWERED IN FUTURE BUT COULD NOT SUPPORT CUBA DRAFT BECAUSE IT CHANGED C/C SCALE. COULD NOT SUPPORT OPERATIVE PARA ONE OF OPEC DRAFT BUT COULD GO ALONG WITH REST OF ITS PROVISIONS. APPEALED TO OPEC CO-SPONSORS TO DELETE PARA ONE SINCE THEY HAD MADE THEIR POINT SUFFICIENTLY IN COMMITTEE AND C/C WOULD BEAR THEM IN MIND; FEARED UN MIGHT BE DESTROYED OTHERWISE. FRANCE SAID IT COULD NOT SUPPORT ANY OF THE THREE NEW DRAFTS BUT LIKED CANADIAN AMENDMENTS. IRAN OBJECTED TO CANADIAN AMENDMENTS TO NEPAL DRAFT SINCE THEY CHANGED ITS INTENT DRASTICALLY; ALSO OBJECTED TO AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO OPEC DRAFT SINCE WHAT THAT DRAFT SOUGHT WAS NEW GUIDELINES.

8. MEETING CLOSED AFTER SOME FURTHER SKIRMISHING AND A PROPOSAL BY JAPAN TO RECONVENE IN AFTERNOON, WHICH WAS REJECTED BY CHAIRMAN ON GROUND THAT ACABQ HAD TO MEET AND CONFERENCE ROOM WAS NEEDED BY ANOTHER COMMITTEE, AND IN ANY CASE SOME DELEGATIONS HAD ASKED FOR 24 HOURS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS. COMMITTEE WILL TAKE UP SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS AGAIN ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 3.
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